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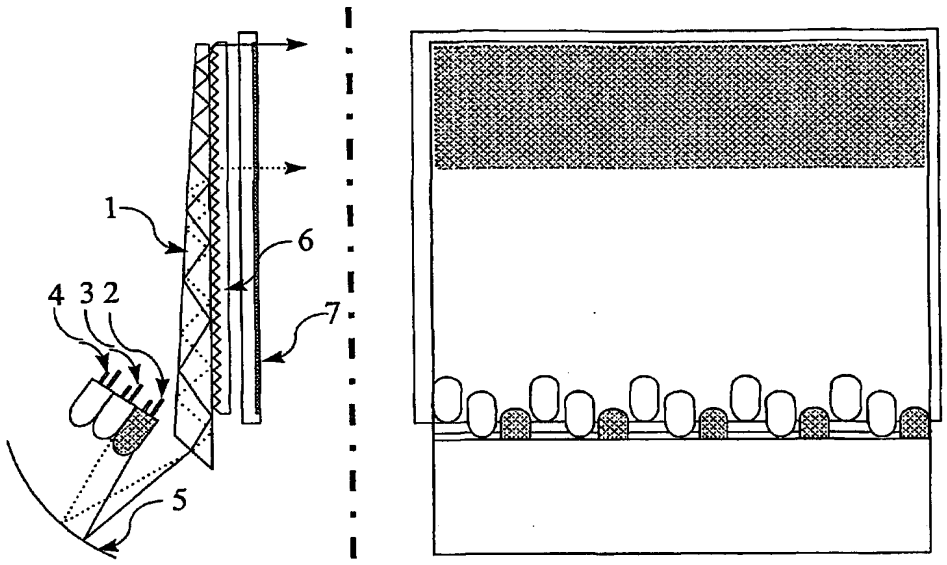
(54) Title: SCANNING BACKLIGHT FOR FLAT-PANEL DISPLAY



(57) Abstract: An illuminator for a flat-panel display comprises a tapered slab waveguide (1) co-extensive with the display, a light source (2-4) arranged to inject light into an edge of the waveguide so that it emerges over the face of the waveguide, and means for scanning the light injected into the wedge so that different areas of the panel are illuminated in turn. Preferably the light source is a set of rows of LEDs, each row injecting light at a different range of angles so that it emerges over different areas of the waveguide 1.

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